

Message Text

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INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

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DRAFTED BY IO/UNP:RAPECK-CB

APPROVED BY IO:SWLEWIS

NEA/PAB:MAUSTRIAN(PHONE)

IO/UNP:GBHELMAN

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY KABUL

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 212738

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UN, RQ, AF

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR AFGHAN SUPPORT ON PUERTO RICO

1. ASSISTANT SECRETARY LEWIS CALLED IN AFGHAN AMBASSADOR MALIKYAR AUGUST 26 TO ASK FOR AFGHAN SUPPORT ON THE PUERTO RICAN ISSUE IN NEXT WEEK'S MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF 24. LEWIS EXPLAINED THAT THE CUBANS ARE PUSHING A RESOLUTION WHICH PROPOSES SOME SORT OF ACTION BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY. LEWIS NOTED THAT MANY REPRESENTATIVES ON THE COMMITTEE AGREE WITH US AND DO NOT THINK IT IS PROPER TO BRING THIS ISSUE TO THE GA, WHILE OTHERS AGREE WITH THE CUBANS. THERE WILL VERY LIKELY BE A MOTION TO POSTPONE ANY DISCUSSION OF THE ISSUE AND, IF IT PASSES, IT WILL NOT BE TAKEN UP AT THE GA THIS FALL. WE BELIEVE THIS WOULD BE THE BEST OUTCOME. IF THERE IS A DEBATE, WE WILL TAKE A VERY STRONG POSITION AND THE CONSEQUENCES FOR OUR ATTITUDE TOWARD THIS GA WILL ACCORDINGLY BE AFFECTED.

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2. LEWIS OBSERVED THAT A SIMILAR MOTION TO POSTPONE WAS APPROVED BY THE COMMITTEE LAST YEAR WITH AFGHAN SUPPORT. THE VOTE THIS YEAR WILL AGAIN BE AN EXTREMELY IMPORTANT MATTER FOR US. LEWIS NOTED THAT HE HAD DISCUSSED THIS QUESTION WITH PRESIDENT DAUD'S SPECIAL ENVOY MOHAMMAD NAIM DURING HIS VISIT TO WASHINGTON IN JUNE AND THAT NAIM

HAD BEEN UNDERSTANDING OF OUR POSITION. IN LIGHT OF THE VERY GOOD RELATIONS WHICH WE NOW HAVE WITH AFGHANISTAN AND THE POSITIVE OUTCOME OF THE SECRETARY'S RECENT VISIT TO KABUL, LEWIS ASKED THAT THE AFGHAN REPRESENTATIVE AGAIN THIS YEAR VOTE TO POSTPONE.

3. MALIKYAR INDICATED THAT HE ASSUMED THE AFGHAN POSITION WOULD NOT CHANGE UNLESS THERE WERE SOME NEW DEVELOPMENTS OF WHICH HE WAS UNAWARE. IN THAT REGARD, LEWIS MENTIONED THE COLOMBO NON-ALIGNED DECLARATION WHICH CALLED ON THE GA TO TAKE ACTION ON PUERTO RICO. LEWIS OBSERVED THAT A NUMBER OF GOVERNMENTS HAD ENTERED WRITTEN EXCEPTIONS TO THIS POSITION AND HAD TOLD US THAT THEY DO NOT FEEL BOUND BY THE COLOMBO DECLARATION. KISSINGER

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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